

Weather god

A **weather god or goddess**, also frequently known as a **storm god or goddess**, is a deity in mythology associated with weather phenomena such as thunder, lightning, rain, wind, storms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Should they only be in charge of one feature of a storm, they will be called after that attribute, such as a rain god or a lightning/thunder god. This singular attribute might then be emphasized more than the generic, all-encompassing term "storm god", though with thunder/lightning gods, the two terms seem interchangeable. They feature commonly in polytheistic religions.

Storm gods are most often conceived of as wielding thunder and/or lightning (some lightning gods' names actually mean "thunder",^{[1][2][3]} but since one cannot have thunder without lightning, they presumably wielded both). The ancients didn't seem to differentiate between the two, which is presumably why both the words "lightning bolt" and "thunderbolt" exist despite being synonyms. Of the examples currently listed storm themed deities are more frequently depicted as male, but both male and female storm or other rain, wind, or weather deities are described.



Jupiter, king of gods and weather god in ancient Rome



Mariamman, the Hindu goddess of rain.

Contents

Africa and the Middle East

Sub-Sahara Africa

Afroasiatic Middle East

Canaanite

Egyptian

Mesopotamian

Western Eurasia

Balto-Slavic

Celtic

Norse-Germanic

Greco-Roman

Western Asia

Anatolian-Caucasian

Hindu-Vedic

Persian-Zoroastrian

Uralic

Asia-Pacific / Oceania

Chinese

Filipino

Japanese

Oceania

Native Americas

Central America and the Caribbean

See also

References

Further reading

Africa and the Middle East

Sub-Sahara Africa

- Umvelinqangi, god of thunder, Zulu mythology
- Mbaba Mwana Waresa, goddess of rain, Zulu mythology
- Oya, the Yoruba orisha of winds, tempests, and cyclones
- Bunzi, goddess of rain, in Kongo mythology.

Afroasiatic Middle East

Canaanite

- Ba'al, Canaanite god of fertility, weather, and war.
- Hadad, the Canaanite and Carthaginian storm, fertility, & war god. Identified as Ba'al's true name at Ugarit.

Egyptian

- Horus, the Egyptian weather, beneficial storm, vengeance, and rain, god. Associated with the sun, kingship, and war. Personified in the pharaoh.
- Set, the Egyptian chaos, evil, and storm god, lord of the desert.

Mesopotamian

- Adad, the Mesopotamian weather god
- Manzat, goddess of the rainbow
- Shala, wife of Adad and a rain goddess
- Wer, a weather god worshiped in northern Mesopotamia and in Syria

Western Eurasia

Balto-Slavic

- Audra, Lithuanian god of storms
- Bangpūtys, Lithuanian god of storms and the sea
- Perkūnas, Baltic god of thunder, rain, mountains, and oak trees. Servant of the creator god Dievas.

- Perun, Slavic god of thunder and lightning and king of the gods

Celtic

- Taranis, Celtic god of thunder, often depicted with a wheel as well as a thunderbolt^[4]

Norse-Germanic

- Freyr, Norse god of the sun, summer, healing, peace, prosperity, rain and sunshine
- Thor, Norse god of thunder/lightning, oak trees, protection, strength, and hallowing. Also Thunor and Donar, the Anglo-Saxon and Continental Germanic versions, respectively, of him. All descend from Common Germanic **Thunraz*, the reflex of the PIE thunder god for this language branch of the Indo-Europeans.^[5]

Greco-Roman

- Aeolus (son of Hippotes), keeper of the winds in the Odyssey
- Anemoi, collective name for the gods of the winds in Greek mythology, their number varies from 4 to more
- Jupiter, the Roman thunder/lightning and sky god and king of the gods
- Tempestas, Roman goddess of storms or sudden weather. Commonly referred to in the plural, *Tempestates*.
- Zeus, Greek thunder/lightning and sky god and king of the gods

Western Asia

Anatolian-Caucasian

- Tamar (goddess), Georgian virgin goddess who controlled the weather.
- Tarḫunna, Hittite storm god; other Anatolian languages had similar names for their storm gods, such as Luwian below.
- Tarḫunz, Luwian storm god.
- Teshub, Hurrian storm god.
- Theispas or Teisheba, the Uartian storm and war god.
- Vayu, Hindu/Vedic wind god.
- Weather god of Nerik, Hittite god of the weather worshiped in the village of Nerik.
- Weather god of Zippalanda, Hittite god of the weather worshiped in the village of Zippalanda.

Hindu-Vedic

- Indra, Hindu God of the Weather, Storms, Sky, Lightning, and Thunder. Also known as the King of gods.
- Mariamman, Hindu rain goddess.
- Rudra, the god of wind, storms, and hunting; destructive aspect of Shiva

Persian-Zoroastrian

- Vayu-Vata, Iranian duo of gods, the first is the god of wind, much like the Hindu Vayu.

Uralic

- Küdryrchö Jumo, the Mari storm god.
- Ukko, Finnish thunder and harvest god and king of the gods

Asia-Pacific / Oceania

Chinese

- Dian Mu, Leigong, and Wen Zhong, the thunder deities.
- Feng Bo, Feng Po Po, and Han Zixian, the Deities of Wind.
- Yunzhongzi, the master of clouds.
- Yu Shi, the god of rain.
- Sometimes the Dragon Kings were included instead of Yu Shi

Filipino

- Oden, the Bugkalot deity of the rain, worshiped for the deity's life-giving waters^[6]
- Apo Tudo, the Ilocano deity of the rain^[7]
- Anitun Tauo, the Sambal goddess of wind and rain who was reduced in rank by Malayari for her conceit^[8]
- Anitun Tabu, the Tagalog goddess of wind and rain and daughter of Idianale and Dumangan^[9]
- Bulan-hari, one of the Tagalog deities sent by Bathala to aid the people of Pinak; can command rain to fall; married to Bitu-in^[10]
- Santonilyo, a Bisaya deity who brings rain when its image is immersed at sea^[11]
- Diwata Kat Sidpan, a Tagbanwa deity who lives in the western region called Sidpan;^[12] controls the rains^[13]
- Diwata Kat Libatan, a Tagbanwa deity who lives in the eastern region called Babatan;^[14] controls the rain^[15]
- Diwata na Magbabaya, simply referred as Magbabaya, the good Bukidnon supreme deity and supreme planner who looks like a man; created the earth and the first eight elements, namely bronze, gold, coins, rock, clouds, rain, iron, and water; using the elements, he also created the sea, sky, moon, and stars; also known as the pure god who wills all things; one of three deities living in the realm called Banting^[16]
- Anit: also called Anitan; the Manobo guardian of the thunderbolt^[17]
- Inaiyau: the Manobo god of storms^[18]
- Tagbanua: the Manobo god of rain^[19]
- Umouiri: the Manobo god of clouds^[20]
- Libtakan: the Manobo god of sunrise, sunset, and good weather^[21]

Japanese

- Fūjin, Japanese wind god.
- Raijin, Japanese god of thunder, lightning, and storms
- Susanoo, tempestuous Japanese god of storms and the sea.

Oceania

- Baiame, sky god and creator deity of southeastern Australia.
- Julunggul, Arnhem Land rainbow serpent goddess who oversaw the initiation of boys into manhood.
- Tāwhirimātea, Maori storm god.

Native Americas

Central America and the Caribbean

- Chaac, Maya rain god. Aztec equivalent is Tlaloc.
- Coatrisquie, Taíno rain goddess, servant of Guabancex, and sidekick of thunder god Guatauva.
- Cocijo, Zapotec god of lightning.
- Ehecatl, Aztec god of wind.
- Guabancex, top Taíno storm goddess; the Lady of the Winds who also dishes out earthquakes and other natural disasters.
- Guatauva, Taíno god of thunder and lightning who is also responsible for rallying the other storm gods.
- Huracán, K'iche Maya god of the weather, wind, storms, and fire.
- Juracán, Taíno zemi or deity of chaos and disorder believed to control the weather, particularly hurricanes
- K'awiil, classic Maya god of lightning.
- Q'uq'umatz, K'iche Maya god of wind and rain, also known as Kukulcan, Aztec equivalent is Quetzalcoatl
- Tezcatlipoca, Aztec god of hurricanes and night winds.
- Tlaloc, Aztec rain and earthquake god. Mayan equivalent is Chaac.
- Tohil, K'iche Maya god of rain, sun, and fire.
- Tupã, the Guaraní god of thunder and light. Creator of the universe.
- Yopaat, a Classic-period Maya storm god.

See also

- Rain god
- Sea god, often responsible for weather at sea
- Sky god
- Thunder god
- Wind god

References

1. Scheffer, Johannes (1674). The History of Lapland. Oxford
2. Eesti Keele Instituut (Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia); Eesti Rahvaluule Arhiiv (1 January 2004). Folklore: electronic journal of folklore. The Institute. Retrieved 19 August 2012.
3. Orel (2003:429)
4. Paul-Marie Duval. 2002. *Les Dieux de la Gaule*. Paris, Éditions Payot.
5. Orel (2003:429)
6. Wilson, L. L. (1947). Ilongot Life and Legends. Southeast Asia Institute.
7. Llamzon, Teodoro A. 1978. Handbook of Philippine language groups. Quezon City, Philippines: Ateneo de Manila University Press.
8. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.
9. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.
10. Eugenio, D. L. (2013). Philippine Folk Literature: The Legends. Quezon City: University of the Philippines Press
11. San Agustín, G. (1998). Conquistas de las Islas Filipinas, 1565–1615 (Spanish Edition): Bilingual ed edition. San Agustin Museum.
12. Filipino Heritage: The metal age in the Philippines (1977). Manila: Lahing Pilipino Pub.
13. Fox, R. B. (1982). Religion and Society Among the Tagbanuas of Palawan Island, Philippines. Manila: National Museum.
14. Filipino Heritage: The metal age in the Philippines (1977). Manila: Lahing Pilipino Pub.
15. Fox, R. B. (1982). Religion and Society Among the Tagbanuas of Palawan Island, Philippines. Manila: National Museum.
16. Unabia, C. C. (1986). The Bukidnon Batbatonon and Pamuhay: A Socio-Literary Study. Quezon City : UP Press.
17. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.
18. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.
19. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.
20. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.
21. Jocano, F. L. (1969). Philippine Mythology. Quezon City: Capitol Publishing House Inc.

Further reading

- Holtom, D. C. "The Storm God Theme in Japanese Mythology." Sociologus, Neue Folge / New Series, 6, no. 1 (1956): 44-56. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/43643852>.

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Weather_god&oldid=1078078727"

This page was last edited on 19 March 2022, at 18:58 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License 3.0; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.